

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE BLACK-FRONTED WARBLER (*Dendroica nigrifrons* Brewst.) figured in the January number of the present volume of 'The Auk', was described by Mr. Brewster (Auk, VI, Jan. 1889, p. 94) from specimens taken at Pinos Altos, Chihuahua, Mexico, in June and July, 1888, by Mr. M. Abbott Frazar, and is one of Mr. Frazar's most interesting discoveries in the Sierra Madre region of Mexico. This forms one of the series of species which Mr. Brewster will notice more at length in some future number of this journal. By inadvertance no reference to the plate was given in the January issue.

THE AUDUBON MONUMENT COMMITTEE of the New York Academy of Sciences is able to report subscriptions to the amount of \$9000, nearly one half of which, however, is contingent upon the raising of the total sum of \$10,000, as originally proposed. Under these conditions it should be easy to secure promptly the remaining one thousand dollars, which the committee is sanguine will soon be forthcoming. The erection of the monument now seems assured, and it is expected that the work will be completed by October of the present year.

The unveiling of the monument will be attended with appropriate public exercises, including an oration by some prominent representative of the American Ornithologists' Union. It is hoped that those who may have withheld their contributions through fear of the ultimate failure of the project will now lend a hand in completing the amount necessary to give the Committee the required sum for successfully consummating their labor of love. Remittances may be sent to Mr. William Dutcher, treasurer of the A. O. U. Audubon Monument Committee, 525 Manhattan Ave., New York City, or to Dr. N. L. Britton, Treasurer of the Academy of Sciences Committee, Columbia College, New York City.

THE WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA ORNITHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION was organized in Alleghany City, Pa., Dec. 30, 1891, with the following officers: President, Dr. A. D. Johnston, of Alleghany; Vice-President, Thomas Harper, of Alleghany; Secretary and Treasurer, H. H. Wickham, of Beaver. The Society has already a membership of twenty-six persons, who propose to study carefully the avifauna of their respective districts, with a view to elucidating the ornithology of the western half of the State of Pennsylvania. Such organized effort is always a subject of congratulation, and much benefit must result not only to those personally engaged in such work but also to the science of ornithology.

A MONOGRAPH of the Birds of Paradise, by Dr. R. Bowdler Sharp, of the British Museum, is announced as in course of preparation. It will be published by Henry Sothorn & Co., 17 Piccadilly, London, in six parts,

forming one volume imperial folio, at a cost to subscribers of three guineas per part. Most of the species have already been figured in Gould's 'Birds of New Guinea,' and where practicable, Gould's plates will be utilized, but in many cases the species will be re-drawn, and wholly new plates added of the many striking species only recently described. Each will contain ten magnificent hand-colored illustrations, and the edition will be limited to 350 copies.

DR. EDGAR A. MEARNS, U. S. A., has been detailed as surgeon and naturalist to the United States and Mexican Boundary Commission, which is to re-locate and permanently mark the international boundary line. The Commission left El Paso early in March, and the march to the Pacific coast and return is expected to occupy rather more than two years. As the survey will thus move slowly, Dr. Mearns will doubtless have excellent opportunity for field work and collecting, and in view of his boundless energy and untiring industry we may safely look forward to important scientific results from his labors.

MR. S. N. RHOADS, of Philadelphia, has started on a six months' collecting trip to British Columbia. He intends first to spend a month cruising in Puget Sound and along the northeast coast of Vancouver Island, and then to visit the Cariboo Lake region of central British Columbia, and thence work southward to the Columbia River, along the western slope of the Selkirks, as far as the United States boundary. He will devote himself especially to birds and mammals.

MR. ROBERT C. L. PERKINS of London, England, recently sailed for the Hawaiian Islands, via New York, to spend several years in a thorough exploration of the bird and insect life of this group of islands, where in these departments of zoölogy much still remains to be done. Notwithstanding the attention of late given to the birds of the Hawaiian group, it is believed a rich harvest still remains ungathered.

CUBA seems just now to be attracting to an unusual degree the attention of American ornithologists. In February Mr. Frank M. Chapman, of the American Museum of Natural History, began a two months' exploration of portions of the southern coast of the island, and Mr. C. B. Cory, with a trained assistant, has resumed his field investigations of the Cuban avifauna.

MR. W. E. D. SCOTT selected the vicinity of Fort Myers, Florida as his field for ornithological work during the past winter, he reaching Fort Myers the last of November. His explorations of this slightly known field have been attended with interesting results, which later will be made known to the readers of 'The Auk.'